Pending court cases of Punjab National Bank, Calcutta

2598. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Punjab National Bank, Calcutta have not taken any concrete steps to sort out the court cases pending against some loanees on account of transport;

(b) whether such cases have been pending for about a decade;

(c) whether Government would direct the bank to avoid expenses on account of futile litigation; and

(d) if so, the facts thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) and (b) Punjab National Bank have reported that they take all possible steps for expediting decisions in pending Court cases. Where proposals are received from borrowers for compromise|settlement, these are considered on merits.

(c) and (d) The public sector banks resort to filling of suits against borrowers only when they are otherwise unable to recover outstanding dues.

Growth of capital goods industry

2599. SHRI SOM PAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the manufacturing sector of our economy is currently growing at 2.5 per cent per annum;

(b) whether it is also a fact that consumer durable sector is growing faster than the capital goods industry;

(c) if so, what are the comparative rates of growth of capital goods industry and the consumer durable goods industry in the current year;

(d) what are the reasons for this lop-sided growth;

(e) what is being done to correct the imbalance, especially to give a boost to capital goods industry;

(f) whether the tariff structure applicable to capital goods is responsible for the sluggish growth of this section of manufacturing industry; and

(g) if so, what is being done in that regard;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (DR. ABRAR AHMED): (a) to (c) The rates for growth for manufacturing, consumer durables and capital goods sector for April—November 1993 over the corresponding period of last year as per provisional index of industrial production (Base: 1980-81) are given below:

(in per cent)

April-November, 1993	Manufacturing	Capital Goods	Consumer Durables
	1.1	—8.0	13.1